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PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN™

GIVE IT UP, SPIDER-MAN! WHEN *THE BLOB'S* GOT YA--YA STAY GOT!!

MILGROM

IF IT WASN'T FOR BAD LUCK...

PRESENTED by: Stan Lee

WRITTEN AND DRAWN BY
AL MILGROM
EMBELLISHED BY
JIM MOONEY
LETTERED BY
DIANA ALBERS
COLORED BY
GLYNIS WEIN
EDITED BY
DANNY FINGEROTH
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JIM SHOOTER

NO! KEEP AWAY FROM ME.

YOU CAN'T ESCAPE, BLACK CAT. GIVE UP!

YOU COME OUT OF NO-WHERE, WEARING A COSTUME I'VE NEVER SEEN--!

SO IT'S GOT A SPIDER SYMBOL ON IT. THAT DOESN'T MEAN ANYTHING-- ANYBODY COULD WEAR ONE.

HOW DO I KNOW YOU'RE REALLY MY SPIDER, THE MAN I LOVE?

WELL, FOR ONE THING, HOW MANY GUYS DO YOU KNOW--

--WHO CAN DO THIS--?

--OR THIS--?

--OR...

...THIS?!

WHULP! Y-YOU CAUGHT ME!

THAT WAS THE IDEA, WASN'T IT BEAUTIFUL?

HAVE THE BAD LUCK POWERS THE KINGPIN GAVE ME*FAILED ALREADY? HOW ELSE COULD SPIDER HAVE GRABBED ME WITH-OUT ANY HARM BEFALLING HIM...

*IN ISSUE #89--DANNY.

...UNLESS SOMEHOW THE POWER ONLY WORKS WHEN THE PERSON OR THING TRYING TO CATCH ME MEANS ME HARM. IT'S SO CONFUSING... I-I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND IT.

EARTH TO CAT! YOU *DID* RIDE ALL THE WAY INTO THE CITY WITH ME ON TOP OF THAT LONG ISLAND RAILROAD TRAIN.

I DIDN'T HEAR ANY DOUBTS THEN.

HA! NO, THAT'S TRUE. BUT SITTING ON THE ROOF OF A TRAIN YOU DON'T HEAR MUCH OF ANYTHING.

NOW TELL ME AGAIN EXACTLY WHERE YOU'VE BEEN AND HOW YOU GOT THAT SUPER-SEXY NEW COSTUME.

WELL...LIKE I SAID, ME AND A BUNCH OF OTHER LONG UNDERWEAR TYPES GOT SUCKED INTO A WEIRD DEVICE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SHEEP MEADOW. IT TRANSPORTED US TO ANOTHER DIMENSION.

WHAT HAPPENED TO US THERE WAS SO FANTASTIC, I HESITATE TO EVEN REPEAT IT.

BUT I WILL SAY THIS MUCH, THE FATE OF THE UNIVERSE HUNG IN THE BALANCE. LUCKILY, OUR SIDE WON.*

*SEE *MARVEL SUPER HEROES SECRET WARS* ON SALE NOW--DANNY.

I ALSO PICKED UP THIS SNAZZY NEW SET OF THREADS.

I GUESS I REALLY DON'T NEED TO TELL HER ALL OF THE DETAILS--

--LIKE HOW I BROUGHT DR. CURT CONNERS, A.K.A. THE *LIZARD*, BACK WITH ME.

ANYWAY, I WAS SO THRILLED TO BE BACK ON TERRA FIRMA, I LITERALLY JUMPED FOR JOY.*

YA-YA-*HOO!*

POLICE

*FOR FULL DETAILS SEE *AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #252*--DANNY.

BUT THEN I GOT TO THINKING. THE WHOLE BALL OF WAX, COULD HAVE GONE PFFFT! NO ONE WOULD HAVE EVEN KNOWN WHAT HIT THEM.

IT'S LIKE ANY DAY YOU COULD WALK OUT ON THE STREET AND GET RUN OVER BY A TRUCK.

THAT'S WHEN I REALIZED I HAD NO RIGHT TO TELL YOU HOW TO LIVE YOUR LIFE... TO FORBID YOU TO JOIN ME IN THE DANGEROUS PARTS OF MY LIFE AS SPIDER-MAN.

I GUESS WHAT I'M SAYING IS... I LOVE YOU AND I RESPECT YOUR RIGHT TO RISK YOUR LIFE IF YOU WANT TO...

I DON'T HAVE TO *LIKE* IT THOUGH!

NO... YOU DON'T HAVE TO LIKE IT.

BUT I'M SO GLAD YOU CAME TO THAT DECISION.

THERE'S NOWHERE I'D RATHER BE THAN OUT PROWLING THE NIGHT WITH YOU, MY SPIDER.

AND I KNOW WE'LL BE GREAT TOGETHER.

I HOPE SO, CAT. I REALLY DO.

NOW I'D LIKE TO SHOW YOU JUST HOW MUCH I MISSED YOU WHILE YOU WERE GONE FOR A WHOLE WEEK.

BUT I CAN'T FIND THE SEAM IN THIS NEW MASK OF YOURS.

THAT'S BECAUSE--

--THERE ISN'T ONE.

GASP! HOW DOES IT *DO* THAT?

BEATS ME. THOSE EXTRA-DIMENSIONAL TAILORS NEVER GIVE AWAY TRADE SECRETS.

SURE COMES IN HANDY, THOUGH.

I'LL SAY--MMMF!

IT'S SO MUCH MORE CONVENIENT FOR KISSING... AND EATING...

...AND ALL *KINDS* OF STUFF.

LET US TAKE A DISCREET LEAVE OF OUR REUNITED LOVERS NOW...

...AND SHIFT OUR ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING AFTERNOON-- A FEW BLOCKS UPTOWN, TO MADISON SQUARE GARDEN WHERE A PONDEROUS FIGURE MAKES HIS WAY TOWARDS THAT FAR-FAMED ARENA.

SCOTCH

MADISON SQUARE GARD

HEY, YOU! WHICH WAY TO THE MAIN TENT?

CIRCUS

CLOSED

BEAT IT, YA RUBE! CAN'T YA READ? THE CIRCUS IS CLOSED. YA CAN'T GO IN THERE!

AND ARE *YOU* GONNA STOP ME?

UNNH! OH, I-IT'S YOU. SORRY, I DIDN'T KNOW.

WHERE'S GUNTHER?

TH-THERE! INSIDE THE MAIN TENT! NOBODY'S BEEN ABLE TO GET NEAR IT FOR DAYS.

YEH? WELL I AIN'T NOBODY!

WHEN I DON'T WANT TO BE MOVED, NUTHIN' CAN MOVE ME!

AND WHEN I DON'T WANT TO BE STOPPED--

--THERE'S HARDLY A BLESSED THING ON THE FACE OF THIS EARTH THAT CAN STOP--

--THE BLOB!

GUNTHER... *UNUS*... WHAT'S GOIN' ON?! IT'S TAKIN' ALL MY POWER JUST TO MOVE FORWARD.

FRED... MY FRIEND. YOU'VE COME.

WE... THOUGHT MY POWER WAS GONE--SMASHED BY THE HULK*... WE WERE WRONG. IT CAME BACK STRONGER THAN EVER.

I LOST ALL CONTROL OVER IT. I CAN'T EVEN MAINTAIN MY FOOTING ON SOLID GROUND.

AND YOUR POWER TO PROPEL THINGS FROM YOUR BODY IS EVEN KEEPING THE WHOLE MAIN TENT SUPPORTED.

*AS RECOUNTED IN MARVEL FANFARE #7 --DANNY.

THAT'S NOT... THE WORST OF IT. I HAVEN'T ...EATEN IN DAYS. NO ONE CAN GET ANY FOOD TO ME. AND I... CAN'T SEEM TO CATCH MY BREATH.

THE BLOB'S FLESH RIPPLES AND TREMBLES AS HE FORCES HIS MASSIVE BODY YET CLOSER TO UNUS'S LEVITATING FORM.

BUT TO WHAT AVAIL?

I BEEN HANGIN' OUT WITH THE BROTHERHOOD OF EVIL MUTANTS, FIGHTIN' THE X-MEN AGAIN.

SOON'S I HEARD YOU WAS IN TROUBLE I HOTFOOTED IT RIGHT OVER HERE. YOU'RE MY PAL, THE ONLY GUY WHO NEVER LOOKED AT ME LIKE A FREAK.

I'LL HELP YOU SOMEHOW, GUNTHER.

FRED... I AK...

NO! HE CAN'T BREATHE!

HIS FORCE FIELD'S DOWN!

HE--HE'S FALLIN'!

SPEAK TO ME, GUNTHER! SAY YOU'RE OKAY!

GUNTHER--?

GOOD LORD, LOOK!

THE MAIN TENT'S COMING DOWN!

NOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!

STAND CLEAR!

NO! HE'S DEAD! MY ONLY FRIEND IN THE WORLD!

THEY TOOK HIM FROM ME!

"FRED J. DUKES HAS A FRIEND-- LET'S KILL HIM!" THAT'S WHAT THEY SAID!

I'LL MAKE THEM PAY! ALL OF THEM!

AND SO, BLINDED BY THE PAIN OF HIS GRIEF, THE BLOB LURCHES OUT INTO THE NIGHT VOWING TO MAKE OTHERS KNOW LIKE PAIN!

WHILE NEARBY, THE RAYS OF THE SETTING SUN...

USI

...FILTERING THROUGH THE SLATS OF A HALF-DRAWN VENETIAN BLIND, HELP ROUSE A CERTAIN PETER PARKER, BETTER KNOWN AS THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN!

YAWN! I DON'T KNOW WHICH TIRED ME OUT MORE, SAVING THE UNIVERSE--

--OR SPENDING AN EVENING MESSING AROUND THE ROOFTOPS WITH THE BLACK CAT.

LOOKS LIKE I MANAGED TO SLEEP THE DAY AWAY.

I'D BETTER GET DRESSED AND GET OUT OF HERE. I'VE GOT A WHOLE LOST WEEK TO MAKE UP FOR.

HERE COMES MY COSTUME *FLOWING* ACROSS THE FLOOR TOWARDS ME.

I WONDER IF I'LL EVER GET USED TO THE WAY IT SEEMS TO OBEY MY VERY THOUGHTS--

--TURNS INTO STREET CLOTHES WHEN I NEED 'EM, OR MY SPIDEY SUIT WHEN *THAT'S* CALLED FOR.

IF I COULD TEACH IT TO SHAVE ME I'D REALLY HAVE A GOOD THING GOING!

PARKER!

MRS. MUGGINS. HOW'S NEW YORK'S FINEST LANDLADY DOING THIS EVENING?

DON'T TRY TO SWEET TALK ME! YOUR RENT'S OVERDUE BY A WEEK! PLUS, I SAW THAT WEIRD CHICKIE OF YOURS SNEAKIN' OUT OF YOUR APARTMENT THE OTHER NIGHT!

YOU KNOW, THE ONE WITH THE MASK AND THE BLACK SILK LONG JOHNS.

THE BLACK CAT--HERE?!

I RUN A CLEAN HOUSE HERE, PARKER. I DON'T WANT NONE OF THAT KINKY STUFF GOING ON! AND I WANT MY RENT. PRONTO!

YES, MA'AM!

NOW WHAT ON EARTH WAS THE CAT DOING AT MY APARTMENT? AND HOW COULD SHE HAVE BEEN SO CLUMSY AS TO LET MRS. MUGGINS SEE HER? I'M GOING TO HAVE TO HAVE A TALK WITH THAT GIRL.

BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, I'VE GOT TO EARN SOME MONEY!

CUSINE

WHEN FREELANCERS TAKE A WEEK OFF FROM WORK TO SAVE THE UNIVERSE, NOBODY PAYS THEIR BILLS FOR THEM.

LIKE I ALWAYS SAY: "WITH GREAT RESPONSIBILITY COMES GREAT INDEBTEDNESS."

AND SOON, IN MIDTOWN...

DAILY BUGLE

I'LL JUST DROP BY THE BUGLE TO SEE IF ROBBIE'S GOT ANY PHOTO ASSIGNMENTS FOR ME. AH, HERE WE ARE NOW.

HELLO! ANYONE HERE SEE JOE ROBERTSON AROUND?

HEY, LOOK WHO JUST BREEZED IN.

PETER PARKER, PHOTOGRAPHER TO THE STARS!

SAY, PARKER, HOW LONG YOU BEEN STRINGING ALONG THAT BLACK CAT CUTIE?

BLACK CAT--?

SHE CAME BY LOOKING FOR YOU, PETER. I NEVER KNEW YOU KEPT SUCH GLAMOROUS COMPANY BEFORE.

IF SPIDER-MAN FINDS OUT YOU'RE TRYING TO BEAT HIS TIME, YOU COULD BE IN TROUBLE, PARKER.

ER... YEAH, WELL, I'LL TRY TO KEEP A LOW PROFILE.

FINALLY...

YES, PETER, MR. ROBERTSON IS STILL IN BUT HE'S TRYING TO PUT THE LATE EDITION TO BED. HAVE A SEAT AND HE'LL CALL YOU WHEN HE'S FREE.

THANKS, BETTY.

TIME PASSES...

...SLOWLY...

UNTIL...

PETE. SORRY TO HAVE KEPT YOU. I WAS JUST FINALIZING THE FRONT PAGE FOR THE LATE EDITION.

THAT'S OKAY, JOE. NOW THAT YOU'RE EDITOR IN CHIEF, I'M SURE YOU'VE GOT RESPONSIBILITIES OUT THE WAZOO!

THAT'S FOR SURE. NOW, WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU, PETE?

WELL, I WAS HOPING YOU MIGHT HAVE AN ASSIGNMENT FOR ME.

I'M AFRAID NOT. I HELD JOBS FOR YOU FOR DAYS, BUT YOU WERE NOWHERE TO BE FOUND. FINALLY, I I HAD TO GIVE THEM TO OTHER PHOTOGRAPHERS.

YOU JUST DISAPPEARED OFF THE FACE OF THE EARTH, PETER. YOU WERE LUCKY THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT HAD THAT FOOTBALL ASSIGNMENT LYING AROUND THE OTHER DAY.*

*SEE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN # 253, ON SALE NOW--DANNY.

BUT FREELANCERS HAVE TO BE ACCESSIBLE, OR WHAT USE ARE THEY?

I-I KNOW, ROBBIE. BUT IT COULDN'T BE HELPED... REALLY! AND I'M IN A BIND FOR MONEY RIGHT NOW.

UH-HUH! WELL, LOOK, PETER, I'M VERY BUSY RIGHT NOW. BUT IF ANYTHING COMES UP I'LL CALL YOU... IF I CAN REACH YOU!

THANKS LOADS!

LATER, BACK AT HIS CHELSEA APARTMENT...

MAN, IT'S NOT LIKE ROBBIE TO BE THAT COLD. I WONDER IF HIS PROMOTION IS GOING TO HIS HEAD.

AW... BE FAIR TO THE MAN, PARKER. HE'S GOT A LOT OF ADDED RESPONSIBILITY AND PRESSURE ON HIM. HE'LL STRAIGHTEN OUT.

10

BESIDES, HOW WAS HE TO KNOW I WAS ONE OF THE MISSING SUPER HEROES?

BUT I'VE GOT OTHER PROBLEMS... LIKE AUNT MAY'S BEING TOTALLY FREAKED OUT WHEN I TOLD HER I HAD DROPPED OUT OF SCHOOL.* I'D BETTER GIVE HER A CALL.

*ASM # 253--D

SHE WAS SO ANGRY AT ME...BUT I'M SURE SHE'S GOTTEN OVER IT BY NOW.

HELLO! NATE... THAT YOU? I'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO MY AUNT, PLEASE.

NATHAN, THE PHONE IS RINGING. CAN YOU GET--OH...

PETER! GOOD TO HEAR FROM YOU, LAD!

IS YOUR AUNT IN--?

ABSOLUTELY NOT!

ER... SORRY, NO. SHE'S OUT.. ER... SHOPPING.

I...SEE. YEAH. GOODBYE.

BLAST!

K-CHING

I HEARD AUNT MAY TALKING IN THE BACKGROUND. I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE'S BEING SO ***STUBBORN*** ABOUT THIS.

I KNOW MY EDUCATION MEANT A LOT TO HER, BUT...

NOK

NOK

EH--? SOMEONE AT THE DOOR.

WHY--FLASH THOMPSON!

HI, PETE. HOPE YOU DON'T MIND MY COMING BY THIS LATE.

NOT AT ALL. I COULD USE SOME COMPANY ABOUT NOW. THINGS HAVE BEEN GOING A LITTLE ROUGH FOR ME TODAY.

TELL ME ABOUT IT. MY LIFE HAS NEVER BEEN SO FOULED UP. I'VE JUST GOTTA TALK TO SOMEBODY ABOUT IT, AND I DIDN'T HAVE ANYONE ELSE TO TURN TO.

BUT WHAT ABOUT YOUR GIRLFRIEND, SHA SHAN?

SHE'S THE PROBLEM. WELL, PART OF IT, ANYWAY.

AFTER THAT CRAZY ADVENTURE THAT BROUGHT HER OVER HERE FROM VIET NAM, SHE AND I STARTED DATING... THEN WE GOT MORE AND MORE SERIOUS -- SPENDING ALL OUR TIME TOGETHER...

EVERYTHING WAS FINE AT FIRST. BUT THEN SHE BEGAN CHANGING.

SHE USED TO BE THE IDEAL WOMAN: SWEET, LOVING, SUPPORTIVE. BUT SHE STARTED TAKING THOSE ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES AND GETTING OUT ON HER OWN...

SOMETHING'S HAPPENED TO US... I DON'T SEEM TO RATE ANYMORE!

BUT DON'T YOU SEE, FLASH? SHE'S JUST... GROWING. SHE CAME FROM A CULTURE WHERE WOMEN ARE MUCH MORE REPRESSED. NATURALLY, WHEN SHE MOVED TO THIS COUNTRY...

I-I SUPPOSE. BUT I DON'T LIKE IT. AND THIS WHOLE THING ABOUT ME BEING OUT IN THE "REAL WORLD" GETS TO ME.

BACK IN HIGH SCHOOL I WAS HOT STUFF. CAPTAIN OF THE FOOTBALL TEAM-- B. M. O. C.* EVEN AFTER THAT, WHEN I WAS IN THE ARMY AND IN COLLEGE FOR A WHILE, THINGS WEREN'T TOO BAD.

*BIG MAN ON CAMPUS -- DANNY.

BUT NOW, IT'S LIKE NOBODY KNOWS WHO I AM... OR CARES.

YOU WERE ALWAYS SORT OF AN OUTCAST IN HIGH SCHOOL, BUT YOU SEEM TO BE DOING OKAY NOW. WHAT'S THE SECRET?

THERE'S NO SECRET, FLASH, YOU JUST HAVE TO...

GOOD GRIEF! AT MY WINDOW. THE BLACK CAT! CAN'T LET FLASH SEE HER!

ER... LOOK, FLASH, I JUST REMEMBERED AN URGENT APPOINTMENT. WE'LL CONTINUE THIS TALK LATER, OKAY?

HUH--? BUT I--

REALLY, FLASH, I'LL CALL YOU. I'M SORRY ABOUT THIS. BUT I'VE *GOT* TO GO!

YEAH! SURE! I GET IT.

I GET IT ALL RIGHT, PARKER. YOU LET ME BELIEVE YOU'RE MY FRIEND, LET ME SPILL MY GUTS OUT TO YOU, THEN GIVE ME THE BUM'S RUSH.

SLAM!

I'LL BET YOU'RE LAUGHING UP YOUR SLEEVE AT ME RIGHT NOW. I THOUGHT YOU WERE A CREEP BACK IN HIGH SCHOOL, AND ONCE A CREEP, ALWAYS A CREEP.

BUT I'LL SHOW YOU! AND SHA SHAN, TOO! I'LL SHOW YOU ALL!

WHILE BACK WITHIN PETER'S APARTMENT...

GET IN OFF THAT LEDGE! WHAT THE DEVIL ARE YOU TRYING TO DO, CAT?

IF YOU'RE THAT DETERMINED TO TELL THE WORLD THERE'S A CONNECTION BETWEEN YOU AND PETER PARKER, WHY NOT JUST PUT UP A BILLBOARD ON THE SIDE OF THE BUILDING?!

WELL THERE REALLY ISN'T ANY CONNECTION BETWEEN ME AND THAT PARKER PERSON. IT'S MY SPIDER I'M INTERESTED IN.

C'MON CAT. I *AM* SPIDER-MA--

SHHH! I HAD A GOOD REASON FOR COMING BY! THERE'S AN EMERGENCY! IT CAN'T WAIT. YOU *MUST* CHANGE TO SPIDER-MAN.

SHE MEANS IT! OKAY, THEN, I FELT TERRIBLE HAVING TO THROW FLASH OUT, BUT I GUESS HIS PROBLEMS WILL HAVE TO WAIT.

GASP

YOU WANT SPIDER-MAN? YOU GOT HIM! COURTESY OF MY NEW, CONVERTIBLE SPIDEY DUDS!

MOMENTARILY, AS THE DARK-CLAD DUO EXITS FROM THE SKYLIGHT ATOP PETER PARKER'S APARTMENT...

NOW, WHAT'S THIS EMERGENCY?

HE'S NOT FAR FROM HERE! A MAN, LIKE I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE. HE'S ON A RAMPAGE!

AND THERE HE IS!

THE BLOB! I'VE HEARD OF HIM. FOUGHT THE X-MEN A COUPLE OF TIMES. BUT THERE SEEMS TO BE NO PURPOSE IN HIS RAMPAGE. HE'S JUST GOING BERSERK!

CAT, I'M GOING TO TACKLE HIM. YOU STAY HERE.

B-BUT I BROUGHT YOU HERE SO I COULD SHOW YOU HOW WELL WE CAN WORK *TOGETHER!*

AND PART OF TEAMWORK IS HAVING A BACK-UP WHEN YOU NEED ONE! I LEARNED THAT WHEN I HELPED OUT THE AVENGERS RECENTLY.

I'M NOT JUST TRYING TO PROTECT YOU, I NEED YOU HERE IN CASE I GET INTO TROUBLE. MEANWHILE, TAKE THIS.

YOUR CAMERA?!

YEP! I'M A FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHER, REMEMBER? AND A STARVING ONE AT THAT! SOME ACTION SNAP-SHOTS OF SPIDER-MAN IN HIS NEW COSTUME OUGHT TO BE WORTH SOMETHING!

BESIDES, IT'LL BE NICE TO HAVE SOME PICS THAT AREN'T ALL SHOT FROM THE SAME PLACE, LIKE THEY ARE WHEN I WEB MY CAMERA TO A WALL.

BE SURE AND GET MY BEST SIDE NOW, SWEETHEART!

GERONIMO!

SPLUBP

"SPLUBP"? WHAT KIND OF SOUND IS THAT? USUALLY WHEN I HIT A BADDIE I HEAR "POW" OR "BRAKT"... BUT "SPLUBP"? SHEESH.

ALWAYS PICKIN' ON ME! LOST MY BUDDY AND NOW ANOTHER ONE'A YOU HERO TYPES IS PICKIN' ON ME.

YOU NEVER COULD'A KNOCKED ME DOWN IF I'D *PLANTED* MYSELF! BUT I WAS FEELIN' SO BAD --WASN'T PAYIN' ATTENTION.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE MOANING ABOUT, SLIM, BUT YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN IS HERE TO SEE YOU DON'T GO TEARING UP THE CITY ANYMORE.

SAY, DID ANYONE EVER TELL YOU YOU'VE GOT A BAAAAD CELLULITE PROBLEM?!

KEEP MAKIN' WITH THE JOKES, RUBE.

BUT MEANWHILE, THE BLOB'S GOT YA!

MY ARM--IT'S STUCK! GOTTA PULL IT LOOSE!

HA! ONCE YOU SUNK YOUR FIST INTO MY PROTECTIVE LAYERS OF FAT, IT WAS EASY FOR ME TO TIGHTEN UP MY MUSCLES AND HOLD YOU!

TH-THIS IS EMBARRASSING! I FEEL LIKE I'M LOSING A FIGHT WITH THE PILLSBURY DOUGH-BOY!

MEANWHILE, OBSERVING THE BATTLE FROM AN UNOBTRUSIVE VANTAGE POINT, A FIGURE LURKS IN THE SHADOWS...

AH, I HAD HOPED TO GET A CHANCE TO OBSERVE SPIDER-MAN IN ACTION BEFORE I, MYSELF, FACE HIM!

US MAIL

IF HE SURVIVES *THIS* ENCOUNTER, I SHOULD GLEAN ALL THE INFORMATION I NEED ABOUT HIS POWERS AND HIS NEW COSTUME.

THEN, WHEN I CONFRONT HIM, HE WILL BE HELPLESS, POWERLESS TO DEFEAT ME!

LET US HOPE, THEN, THAT HE DOES SURVIVE THE FIGHT WITH HIS ROTUND FOE, SO THAT *I* MAY BE THE ONE TO HUMBLE HIM.

STRUGGLE ALL YOU WANT, TWERP. WHEN THE BLOB'S GOT YOU, YOU STAY GOT!

LOOK, PAL-- LIKE THE BAKER SAID TO THE INSTANT BREAD: I DON'T ***KNEAD*** THIS!

YOK IT UP WHILE YOU CAN, SPIDER-MAN!

BUT YOU'RE MESSIN' WITH A GUY WHO NEARLY FOUGHT THE HULK TO A STANDSTILL!

I'LL BREAK YOU LIKE A TWIG!

AS THE BLOB FORCES THE WALL CRAWLER BACK... EVER BACK... THERE IS ONE **OTHER** ROOFTOP OBSERVER WHO IS CONCERNED WITH THE OUTCOME...

NO! THAT FAT CREEP IS TORTURING MY SPIDER! I'LL DITCH THIS CAMERA...

...AND HELP MY LOVER OUT!

SURPRISE, CHUNK-STYLE! SPIDER-MAN ISN'T TRAVELING ALONE THESE DAYS!

WHA-?!

CAT--NO! HE'S TOO DANGEROUS!

DON'T WORRY, LOVER! I'VE GOT A GOOD GRIP ON HIM!

IN A MINUTE HE'LL BE OUT COLD, CHOKING FROM MY ROPE!

=GAK!=

HUH?

NICE TRY, CHICKIE, BUT IT WON'T WASH!

MY MUTANT POWERS MAKE IT ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO BE HURT! I CAN BARELY FEEL THAT LITTLE THREAD OF YOURS!

BUT JUST WAIT TILL I GET MY HANDS ON YOU!

CAT, BEAT IT! NOW!

I'M GONE!

OOF!

BAD LUCK! I WASN'T PLANTED SO I LOST MY BALANCE!

BAD LUCK, ALL RIGHT-- CAUSED BY ME!

YOU GUYS'LL PAY FOR THIS! JUST LIKE I'M GONNA MAKE EVERYBODY PAY!

OKAY, CAT. THANKS FOR BAILING ME OUT! I'LL HANDLE THINGS FROM HERE!

WHAT? BUT I--

HEY!

NO TIME TO DISCUSS IT!

PWIP

MOVING WITH A SPEED WHICH IS PRETTY MUCH WHAT ONE WOULD EXPECT FROM SOMEONE OF HIS BULK, THE BLOB LURCHES TOWARDS SPIDEY...

...WHO DODGES EASILY.

BUT...

YOU DON'T GET AWAY THAT EASY! I'LL SMASH YOU LIKE THE BUG YOU ARE!

SPIDER!

I'LL SAVE YOU!

ARE YOU GETTIN' ON MY BACK AGAIN? NOW THAT I'M RID OF YOUR BOYFRIEND, I'LL SCRAPE YOU OFF... FOR GOOD!

SKRASH

BY TRYING TO HURT *ME*, THE BLOB WILL CAUSE BAD LUCK TO BEFALL *HIMSELF* AGAIN. BUT WHAT WILL IT BE--?

LOOK OUT!

ARRGHH! SCALDING HOT SOUP, SPILLING ALL OVER ME!

HEY, HENRI, IS THAT SOUP READY YET? THE--YOW!

MY MASTERPIECE ...SHE IS RUIN! QUEL DOMAGE!

ALL RIGHT, CHILDREN, IT TAKES MORE THAN A LITTLE HOT SOUP TO SLOW DOWN THE BLOB! NOW I'M GONNA GRIND YOU INTO THE MAIN COURSE.

SHEESH! WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO STOP THIS GUY? HE MAY LOOK LIKE A REFUGEE FROM WEIGHT WATCHERS, BUT HE'S NEARLY AS UNBEATABLE AS THE JUGGERNAUT!

DON'T WORRY, SPIDER, I WON'T LET HIM HURT YOU!

YEAH?! WHAT'RE YA GONNA DO TO SAVE YOURSELF, SWEETS? ONCE I GET A HOLD OF YOU, I'M GONNA MAKE YOU WISH YOU'D NEVER BEEN--

BORRRRRRN

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! THE ASPHALT JUST GAVE WAY BENEATH ME!

MY LUCK'S GOIN' FROM BAD TO WORSE!

KRUMMP

THAT'LL TEACH YOU TO CROSS THE BLACK CAT'S PATH!

REALLY! WITH YOUR LOOKS AND SUCH ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOR HOW DO YOU EXPECT TO MAKE ANY FRIENDS, BLOBBY?

FRIENDS? I--I HAD A FRIEND!

WATCH IT, CAT! HE'S HAULING HIMSELF OUT!

HERE HE COMES AGAIN! GET READY!

HE WAS MY ONLY FRIEND IN THE WHOLE WORLD, AND NOW...

...NOW HE'S DEAD!
NO... NO MORE FIGHTIN'!/
WH-?/ CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?
HE'S PASSING US RIGHT BY-- AS IF ALL THE FIGHT'S GONE OUT OF HIM!/
Cola 8:27
POPEYES
007 NEVER SAY N AGAIN
Victoria
Genuine SWISS ARMY KNIVES
TOW AWAY ZONE

WHAT IS HE MUMBLING ABOUT? SOME FRIEND OF HIS DIED?
I GUESS SO. IT LOOKS LIKE HE JUST WENT OUT OF CONTROL BECAUSE HE WAS GRIEF-STRICKEN.
GEE--I--I ALMOST FEEL SORRY FOR THE POOR SLOB.

N-NO MORE FIGHTING! I'M TIRED OF FIGHTING. SO TIRED -- I...
I JUST WANT TO BE LEFT ALONE... ALONE...
I'M ALL ALONE NOW. SO ALONE...
HOONNK
TOOT
BEEP
HEY, FATSO, MOVE IT! YOU'RE BLOCKING PROGRESS!
TAXI

I JUST REALIZED WE FOUGHT OUR WAY UPTOWN RIGHT INTO TIMES SQUARE!

AND THE BLOB'S PLUNKED HIMSELF DOWN IN THE MIDDLE OF THE INTERSECTION OF BROADWAY AND 42nd STREET!

AND JUST IN TIME FOR THE MORNING RUSH HOUR, TOO!

RMS OF ARMENT

TAXI

WELL, CAT, YOU REALLY HANDLED YOURSELF GREAT OUT THERE. YOU DID BETTER AGAINST THE BLOB THAN I DID!

I GUESS I *WAS* BEING OVER-PROTECTIVE TRYING TO KEEP YOU OUT OF THE ACTION. FORGIVE ME?

WELL, UH...

SURE! I TOLD YOU I WOULDN'T BE A HINDRANCE TO YOU, SPIDER.

MAYBE I SHOULD *TELL* HIM ABOUT MY NEW POWERS. BUT HOW WOULD HE REACT?

WHAT WOULD HE THINK IF HE LEARNED THAT I STRUCK A BARGAIN WITH HIS ARCH-FOE, THE KINGPIN, IN ORDER TO GAIN THOSE POWERS?

IT FIGURES I'D FIND YOU TWO INVOLVED WITH THIS.

CAPTAIN DEWOLFF!

THAT *IS* YOU IN THE NEW COSTUME I HEARD ABOUT, ISN'T IT, SPIDER-MAN?

YEP!

HOW'S MY FAVORITE POLICE OFFICER THIS MORNING?

CUT THE SMALL TALK, SPIDER-MAN! WE GOT THE REPORT ABOUT THE BLOB TEARING UP THE NEIGHBORHOOD BUT-- I SEE YOU TWO HAVE TAKEN ALL THE FIGHT OUT OF HIM!

RIGHT, GLAD TO BE OF SERVICE TO NEW YORK'S FINEST, CAP--

NEVER MIND THAT!

HE'S CAUSING TRAFFIC TIE-UPS AND GRIDLOCKS ALL OVER THE CITY. OUR PROBLEM NOW IS HOW TO GET HIM TO MOVE!

UH-UH! *YOUR* PROBLEM, CAPTAIN! WE STOPPED HIS DESTRUCTIVE RAMPAGE... TRAFFIC PROBLEMS WE LEAVE TO THE POLICE! TA-TA!

BU-BUT--! WAIT! COME BACK HERE! I--AH NUTS!

AND AS THE POLICE TRY TO DETERMINE A WAY TO MOVE A MAN WHO CANNOT BE MOVED, NEW YORK CITY SUFFERS FROM THE WORST CASE OF TRAFFIC CONGESTION IN ITS HISTORY...

HONK HONK HONK

MOVE IT OR LOSE IT!

=SOB=

BEEP

I'D HATE TO BE WAITING FOR AN AMBULANCE

WHAT'S THE HOLD UP?

PULL OVER!

NEW YORK NEW YORK--

NO, *YOU* PULL OVER!

HONK BLEET

#$%*!! TRAFFIC!

BE HERE AS SPIDEY AND THE BLACK CAT FACE A MYSTERIOUS NEW FOE:

NEXT ▶ THE ANSWER!